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UNITED STATES.

STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

MARYLAND.

PRACTICE OF MIDWIFERY—NOTIFICATION OF CASES OF OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM— ACTS OF 1912, CHAPTER 94, APPROVED APRIL 4, 1912.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, that certain additional sections be and the same are hereby added to article 43 of the Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, to follow immediately after section 55 of said article 43, and to be designated as sections 55a, 55b, 55c, 55d, 55e, 55f, 55g, 55h, 55i, 55j, 55k, 55l, 55m, 55n, 55o, 55p.

55a. Any midwife residing within this State not registered in accordance with the provisions of section 55, article 43, of the Code of Public General Laws, on the 1st day of July, 1910, and who shall, previous to July 1, 1910, have been practicing as a midwife, may register his or her name and address with the local register of vital statistics, for the city, town, or county in which he or she resides, in accordance with the provisions of said section 55 of article 43 of the Code of Public General Laws, and upon such registration shall be entitled to a license without examination, as provided in section 55e.

Any person engaging in the practice of midwifery subsequent to July 1, 1910, shall register his or her name and address as provided by said section 55 of article 43, but shall not be entitled to practice as a midwife excepting upon certification and licensure as hereinafter provided.

Any midwife who shall receive a license as provided in this bill shall present the same within 30 days to the local register of vital statistics for the city, town, or county in which he or she resides. Such local register shall record in a "Licensed midwife register," kept for the purpose, the name and address of the midwife and the date of issue of the license, and shall transmit a transcript of such registration to the State board of health, where it shall be kept on file for reference.

55b. A certificate of such registration shall be issued, without cost, by the State board of health, after receipt of the transcript of registration from the local register of vital statistics to each midwife, who shall keep the same plainly displayed in his or her place of business.

55c. Any midwife who has been duly licensed under the provisions of this bill, shall be entitled and shall be required to display a sign outside his or her place of business, exposed to public view, bearing his or her name, with the words "Licensed midwife."

55d. No person shall register as midwife, as provided by section 55a, until he or she has secured a license from the clerk of the Circuit Court of Baltimore City or the clerk of the circuit court of the county in which he or she resides.

55e. The clerk of the Circuit Court of Baltimore City or the clerk of the circuit court of any county shall not issue a license to practice midwifery until he receives from the applicant a certificate from the State board of health, setting forth that he or she has successfully passed an examination, as hereinafter provided, or has been engaged in the practice of midwifery previous to July 1, 1910; on receipt of license the applicant shall register in accordance with section 55a.

55f. The State board of health shall have charge of all details of the examination of applicants. Such applicants must at least know how to read, write, and be able to make out correctly a birth certificate as required by law.

55g. Whenever the applicant resides outside the limits of Baltimore City, and can not come to the city to try the examination before the State board of health, then the examination shall be conducted by the local health officer of the city, town, or county in which the applicant resides, in accordance with the directions given by the State board of health, and such health officer shall forward to the State board of health, with his indorsements, all papers written by the applicant in the examination.

55h. The applicant for license shall present to the State board of health a certificate from a legal practitioner of medicine or a maternity hospital that he or she has attended at least five cases of childbirth, and that he or she is competent to attend ordinary cases of labor. Such applicant shall also be required to present certificates from three reputable citizens stating that the applicant is of good moral character.

55i. Two examinations shall be held yearly—one in the month of May, the other in the month of November, the day of the month to be fixed by the State board of health. The examinations shall be held in the city of Baltimore, and at the county seat of each county, and as hereinbefore provided, due notice shall be given by publication once a week for four weeks previous to the date of the examination, a fee of \$5 to be paid by the applicant before the examination, which fee shall entitle the applicant to one reexamination within 12 months from the date the first examination is held.

55j. It shall be unlawful for any midwife to make a vaginal examination, to attempt to deliver a retained placenta, to attempt to use forceps, to attempt version or any forcible delivery, but such midwife shall in all cases of labor that are not normal notify a licensed practitioner of medicine.

55k. If any time within two weeks after the birth of any infant one or both of its eyes or the eyelids be reddened, inflamed, swollen, or discharging pus the midwife, nurse, or person other than a legally qualified physician in charge of such infant shall refrain from the application of any remedy for the same, and shall immediately report such condition to the health commissioner, or to some legally qualified physician, in the city, town, or county wherein the infant is cared for. Any person or persons violating the provisions of this section shall on conviction be punished by a fine not to exceed \$5.

55l. Any person who shall violate any of the other provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$10, and for a third conviction shall, in addition to the other penalties herein provided, forfeit his or her license to practice midwifery.

55m. Any midwife who shall be convicted of producing an abortion or inducing premature labor shall, in addition to the penalties already provided by law, forfeit at once his or her license to practice midwifery.

55n. Any person other than a regularly licensed physician who shall attend a woman in childbirth for hire, or who shall make a practice of attending women in childbirth, shall be regarded as a midwife within the meaning of this act.

55o. Nothing in this act shall be taken as amending or abridging the right of the mayor and city council of the city of Baltimore to make such additional rules and regulations as they may deem necessary or proper to regulate the practice of midwifery in Baltimore City.

55p. The State board of health shall be charged with the duty of rendering effective the provisions of this act and shall institute proceedings in the proper courts of this State for the enforcement of the penalties made and provided in this act. It shall be the duty of all county health officers to furnish full and prompt information of any violations of the provisions of this act within their respective jurisdictions. Such county health officers are authorized and empowered to institute proceedings in any of the proper courts of this State for the enforcement of the penalties provided by this act, and in such case they shall furnish prompt and full reports of their actions and of the judgment of the court in which such actions shall be tried.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That this act shall take effect from and after the date of its passage.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That chapter 722 of the acts of the general assembly of 1910, entitled "An act to provide for the registration and licensing of midwives in the State of Maryland and to provide certain educational qualifications for persons practicing as midwives, and for other purposes connected with the better preservation of public health," by adding certain additional sections to article 43 of the Code of Public General Laws, title "Health," subtitle "Infectious diseases," said sections to be immediately after section 55 of said article 43 and to be designated as sections 55a, 55b, 55c, 55d, 55e, 55f, 55g, 55h, 55i, 55j, 55k, 55l, 55m, 55n, 55o, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

BUREAU OF BACTERIOLOGY—DUTIES OF—ACTS OF 1912, CHAPTER 153, APPROVED
APRIL 4, 1912.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That section 21c of chapter 560 of the acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1910 be, and the same is hereby, repealed and reenacted so as to read as follows:

SEC. 21c. The bureau of bacteriology shall conduct inquiries into the nature, source, and vehicles of infectious diseases. It shall establish and maintain under the direction of the State board of health, a properly equipped laboratory. The services